DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is response to Applicants' Request for Notice of Appeal filed on 01/04/2010. Claims 1-20 are pending in this Office Action.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Michael R. Cannatti (Reg. No.: 34,791) on 02/25/2010 at 512-338-9100.

In claims:

Please replace claims 1, 8, 10, 11 and 18 with the amended claims 1, 8, 11 and 18.

: and canceled claim 10.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for grouping log file entries by session, comprising:

storing a log file of entries in a memory, each of said entries identifying a client request to a server;

retrieving a subset of log file entries from the memory for storage in a ring buffer;

processing each entry in the ring buffer [[memory]] to identify entries in the subset of log file entries that belong to a complete client session by allocating, for each identified client session, an index to identify entries in the ring buffer that are associated with the identified client session and to identify start or end entries;

grouping entries in the subset that belong to a complete client session; and

adding and removing log file entries to the ring buffer so that the ring buffer implements a sliding window to process the log file entries in the memory into complete client sessions.

8. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture having at least one recordable medium having stored thereon executable instructions and data which, when executed by at least one processing device, cause the at least one processing device to:

read a plurality of records from a file system into a ring buffer, where said plurality of [[or]] records comprises a subset of all records in the file system;

scan each record in the ring buffer to identify a user session for said record and to identify any start or end records in the ring buffer;

allocate, for each identified user session, an index to identify all records in the ring buffer that are associated with the identified user session and to identify all start or end records; [[and]]

process the index to group all records in the ring buffer belonging to a complete user session, to output the grouped records for further analysis; and

sequentially adding and removing log records to the ring buffer until all of the log records in the file system have been processed so that the ring buffer implements a sliding window to process all of the log records in the file system into complete user sessions.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A system for session-based processing of log files using a data processing system and network session data collected from one or more users, the system comprising:

a log file collection system for collecting a plurality of server request entries, wherein a server request entry comprises a session identifier; and

a processing engine to process a subset of the plurality of server request entries to group the server request entries by session using the session identifier in each server request entry by:

reading the subset of the plurality of server request entries from the log file collection into a ring buffer;

scanning each server request entry in the ring buffer to identify a user session for said server request entry and to identify any start or end entries in the ring buffer;

allocating, for each identified user session, an index to identify server request entries in the ring buffer that are associated with the identified user session and to identify start or end entries:

processing the index to group server request entries in the ring buffer belonging to a complete user session; and

adding and removing server request entries to the ring buffer so that the ring buffer implements a sliding window to process the server request entries in the log file collection system into complete user sessions.

18. (Currently Amended) A system for parsing web site logs one session at a time, comprising:

means for storing network session data from at least one server log file;

means for reading a subset of the network session data into a ring buffer;

means for processing the subset of the network session data in the ring buffer to group said network session data by session by allocating for each identified user session, an index to identify network session data in the ring buffer that is associated with the identified user session and to identify start or end network session data; and

means for generating a first output file containing network session data grouped by session by processing the index to group network session data in the ring buffer belonging to a complete user session;

means for adding and removing network session data to the ring buffer so that the ring buffer implements a sliding window to process the network session data into complete user sessions; and

means for parsing said first output file.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-9 and 11-20 are allowed.

The closest prior art, Patent No.: US 7,107,338 B1 of Nareddy et al. (hereinafter Nareddy) teaches the technology relates to analyzing computer interaction or usage data, such as web site navigation information, to identify interactions based on the times of their occurrences; Where Pub. No.: US 2002/0016771 A1 of Carothers et al. (hereinafter Carothers) teaches a method and system for producing advanced management information system information includes, for example, reading one or more transaction journal logs stored in a database for one or more financial institution applications; And Pub. No.: US 2004/0221311 A1 of Dow et al. (hereinafter Dow) teaches stems and methods for providing enhanced navigation of stored digital video content based upon a content-based index.

In combination, Nareddy, Carothers and Dow fail to teach a method for grouping log file entries by session, comprising: storing a log file of entries in a memory, each of said entries identifying a client request to a server; retrieving a subset of log file entries from the memory for storage in a ring buffer; processing each entry in the ring buffer to identify entries in the subset of log file entries that belong to a complete client session by allocating, for each identified client session, an index to identify entries in the ring buffer that are associated with the identified client session and to identify start or end entries method of providing search results, at a client, presenting a plurality of search results received from a remotely located search engine, each search result occupying a respective region on a display and determining a hover period comprising a length of

time that a user hovers a user-controlled pointer over the display region occupied by a respective search result of the plurality of search results without user selection of the respective search result.

However, the prior arts of record such as Nareddy, Carothers and Dow do not teach or fairly suggest the steps as recited in independent in claims 1, 8, 11 and 18, sequentially adding and removing log records to the ring buffer until all of the log records in the file system have been processed so that the ring buffer implements a sliding window to process all of the log records in the file system into complete user sessions.

The dependent claims bring definite, further limiting, and fully enable by the specification are also allowed.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James Hwa whose telephone number is 571-270-1285. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 – 5:00.If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached

on 571-272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only, for more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the PAIR system contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

03/08/2010

/James Hwa/
Examiner, Art Unit 2163

/don wong/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2163